

April 7, 1959

Summary of Intelligence Items reported to the President

Top Soviet Foreign Ministry officials showed great relief to Thompson that a Foreign Ministers Conference has been arranged, and adopted an "almost pleading" attitude stressing the importance of a Summit Meeting. Thompson sees this as a result of Khrushchev's pressure on Foreign Ministry officials and their realization of dangers of Khrushchev's Berlin move in November.

East German workers are becoming "testy and assertive," according to a former party leader, refusing to cooperate in forced programs, "voluntary" work and increased production norms.



Intermittent clashes continue between Bedouin tribesmen and Iraqi security forces on Syrian-Iraqi border. Cairo has sent three million rounds of rifle ammunition to the tribes, but is not supporting with regular Army elements.

British Ambassador in Baghdad has advised London that the arrest and questioning of the senior Iraqi official of Mosul Petroleum Company operations may have purpose of providing a basis for sequestering the company.

U. S. inform French of decision in principle to furnish arms to Morocco. Couve de Murville said de Gaulle would react unfavorably and be spurred to take further unilateral action in other fields relating to NATO. The Acting Secretary then sent a personal message to Couve reassuring that we have not acted without consultation, and have simply stated an intention to help Morocco.

Von Brentano, in explaining the negative nature of German position in recent discussions, pointed to the danger of subversion by East Germany and possibilities of a coalition between the West German

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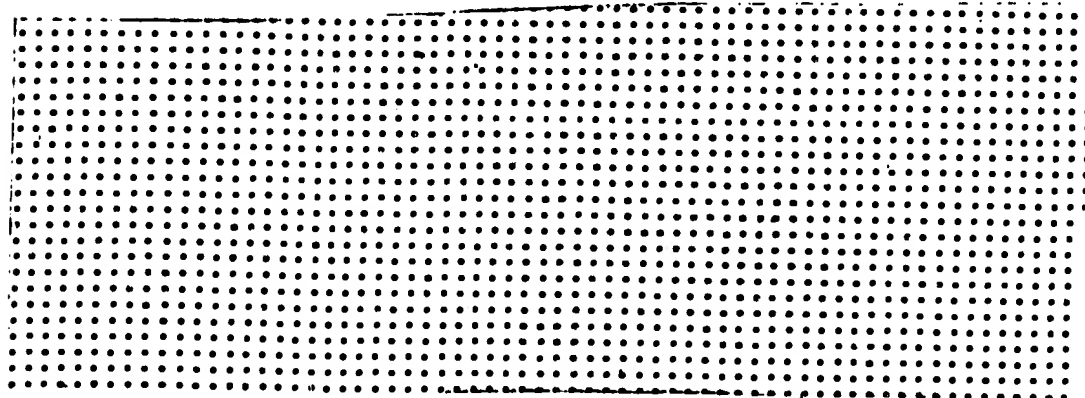
opposition and the Socialists and Communists in East Germany.

Nasser and Hare have been conducting discussions regarding possible aid to Egypt -- Hare citing the difficulties relating to Egyptian cotton, but stressing desire to improve relations with the UAR. Possibility of additional PL 480 wheat also discussed.

In Indonesia Sukarno is preparing to assume a stronger leadership role under the 1945 Constitution, and to "return" to the Constitution. The effect of the move will be to lessen the influence and infiltration of the Communists.

.....there remain only a few thousand Germans in the territory turned over to Poland who have retained German nationality. Perhaps a million have assumed Polish nationality, the rest have left.

.....restrictions continue against the immigration of anyone of other than the white race into Australia. Although restriction has been changed to be based upon "tests," the effect is to exclude other races (there were less than a dozen exceptions in 1945).




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